

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SE - WILLIAM L. EAGLETON/AD

APPROVED BY EUR - MR. LAINGEN

S/S - JPMOFFAT

EUR/RPE L. DUTTON

S - MR. COVEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 129301 TOSEC 020271

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR TU GR CY

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: PROPOSED TEXT OF ORAL MESSAGE
FROM SECRETARY TO GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS

(S/S NO.75111900

FOR THE SECRETARY THROUGH HARTMAN FROM ARMITAGE, ACTING

PROBLEM:

1. FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS HAS NOW PROVIDED US (ATHENS 4044) WITH A DETAILED BRIEFING ON THE DEMIREL-CARAMANLIS MEETING ON MAY 31. TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR THIS INFORMATION AND TO ENCOURAGE CONTINUED MOVEMENT ON CYPRUS THROUGH INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS WHICH WILL BE RECONVENED IN VIENNA ON JUNE 8, YOU MIGHT WISH TO SEND AN ORAL MESSAGE THROUGH AMBASSADOR KUBISCH TO GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT YOU APPROVE THE ATTACHED TELEGRAM INSTRUCTING KUBISCH TO CONVEY YOUR ORAL MESSAGE TO BITSIOS.

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APPROVE DISAPPROVE

2. BEGIN TEXT OF TELEGRAM: FROM THE SECRETARY FOR AMBASSADOR. AMBASSADOR SHOULD DELIVER FOLLOWING ORAL MESSAGE FROM ME TO FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS:

3. BEGIN MESSAGE: THE OPPORTUNITY PROVIDED BY THE NATO MEETINGS FOR PRESIDENT FORD AND ME TO SPEAK TO PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS AND YOU IN DEPTH ABOUT THE SITUATION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND YOUR PROBLEMS IN GREECE HAS BEEN IMMEASURABLY HELPFUL. WE NOW UNDERSTAND YOUR POSITION IN A WAY WHICH IS SIMPLY NOT POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE KIND OF DIRECT EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WE HAVE HAD TOGETHER IN BRUSSELS.

4. I AM ALSO MOST GRATEFUL FOR THE DETAILED BRIEFING YOU PROVIDED AMBASSADOR KUBISCH, COVERING THE MEETING ON MAY 31, BETWEEN PRIME MINISTERS CARAMANLIS AND DEMIREL. YOU CAN, I BELIEVE, TAKE SATISFACTION IN THE OUTCOME OF THAT MEETING AND THE KNOWLEDGE THAT GREEK STATESMANSHIP HAS HELPED ENSURE THAT A GREEK-TURKISH DIALOGUE WILL BE ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED. THE CREATION OF SUBGROUPS TO CONSIDER INDIVIDUAL ISSUES AND THE GENERAL UNDERSTANDING THAT ALL EXISTING PROBLEMS WILL BE SOLVED THROUGH A PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION ARE WELCOME DEVELOPMENTS. I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE US STANDS READY TO ASSIST THIS PROCESS IN ANY WAY YOU BELIEVE WE CAN BE HELPFUL.

5. I WAS ALSO ENCOURAGED BY THAT PORTION OF THE MAY 31 COMMUNIQUE WHICH DEALT WITH CYPRUS. THE DECISION OF THE GREEK AND TURKISH GOVERNMENTS TO SUPPORT THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS WHICH WILL BE RESUMED IN VIENNA ON JUNE 5 IS NECESSARY TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS ENDEAVOR, TO WHICH THE UNITED STATES HAS GIVEN ITS FULL SUPPORT. AS I TOLD YOU IN BRUSSELS, WE HAVE ALSO EXPLAINED TO THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WHY EARLY PROGRESS ON CYPRUS IS IN THEIR OWN AS WELL AS GENERAL WESTERN INTEREST. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE THIS POINT TO THEM IN THE WEEKS AHEAD, AND TO STRESS THE NEED TO HAVE THE NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA GET DOWN TO THE CRITICAL SUBJECTS OF TERRITORY AND REFUGEES AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. THE MORE CONCRETE YOUR OWN PROPOSALS IN THIS CONFIDENTIAL

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AREA CAN BE, THE FASTER IN MY JUDGMENT THE NEGOTIATIONS CAN PROGRESS. AT THE SAME TIME I WOULD EMPHASIZE THAT WE ARE UNDER NO ILLUSION THAT A LASTING SETTLEMENT CAN BE ACHIEVED OVERNIGHT. THE WORK IN VIENNA IS BOUND TO BE LONG AND DIFFICULT; THE REQUIREMENT AT THIS STAGE IS TO KEEP THE TALKS GOING IN A COOPERATIVE AND PRODUCTIVE MANNER.

6. I HAVE TAKEN NOTE OF YOUR COMMENTS TO AMBASSADOR

KUBISCH REGARDING THE TURKISH ARMS QUESTION. NEVERTHELESS,
WE BELIEVE LIFTING THE EMBARGO IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR
ALLIANCE RELATIONSHIP AND AS A MEANS OF ENCOURAGING FLEXI-
BILITY ON CYPRUS.

7. I ALSO WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT THE US HAS PLAYED NO
ROLE IN BRUSSELS IN CONNECTION WITH MEMBERSHIP ISSUES AS
THEY RELATE TO THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY. OUR
RECORD OF SUPPORT FOR THE EEC IS WELL KNOWN. THE QUESTION
OF GREECE'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE EEC IS A MATTER BETWEEN
GREECE AND THE EEC ITSELF. SUGGESTIONS THAT WE HAVE
SPOKEN TO EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS IN AN EFFORT TO IMPEDE
OR DISCOURAGE ACCELERATION OF GREEK MEMBERSHIP ARE EN-
TIRELY FALSE. END MESSAGE.

8. CLEARED: EUR, LBLAINGEN; S.
INGERSOLL

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